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U of W considers Noranda withdrawal

WINNIPEG (CUP) — The University of Winnipeg will soon be asked to divest all interests in Noranda Mines Limited because of that company's involvement with the military regime in Chile.

The university has a policy of divesting itself of any stocks which are deemed to be socially injurious. A student group, the Investment Research Group (IRG), has prepared a brief outlining the repressive nature of the Chilean government and the extent of Noranda's involvement with the government.

The U of W has fifty thousand dollars in Noranda bonds.

If the administration does drop the bonds it will be the first

such divestment since the Board of Regents adopted the policy two years ago.

A member of the IRG, Peter Kulchyski, said the group "will show that Noranda's involvement with Chile facilitates and maintains a repressive government and its apparatus."

In January, 1976, Noranda entered into a partnership with the Chilean government to "survey, develop and exploit Chile's Anacollo copper deposit." The Chilean government relies on copper for 80% of its foreign exchange earnings and 70% of government revenue.

According to the task force on the churches and corporate

responsibility, the Chilean government "has been condemned on three separate occasions for its violations of human rights. It is known internationally for its practise of torture."

Because the U of W holds voting stock in Noranda, on bonds, it would be unable to protest the company's involvement in Chile through the annual stock holder's meeting. As a result the IRG is recommending that the only form of protest be the withdrawal of funds from the company.

A board of regents committee is expected to examine their requests next week.

Entrance exams may be coming

TORONTO (Imprint-CUP) — The Ontario government is considering reintroducing university entrance exams.

Ontario Colleges and Universities Minister Bette Stephenson said Feb. 2 that her department is currently field testing "evaluation models" which she hoped could be easily adapted for use as admissions

exams.

The models are computer-based, standardized tests, which can be "modified to fit a number of areas," she said. "We could hope that these might be easily translatable into university admissions or evaluation programs."

"The question that I'm still debating is whether indeed every

young person who completes Grade 13 should be subjected to a university admission program whether he or she decides to go to university or not, whether it would be more appropriate to have a university admission exam administered by the institution in order to meet their needs."

In either case, she said, the program would be based on "kinds of models we're developing, which would be universal throughout the province, ... that there would be some standardization."

Stephenson said the test should measure achievement rather than aptitude, but "there are other models which could be used which relate to aptitude well."

Province-wide university matriculation exams were abolished in 1968 in Ontario, part of a general liberalization of the educational system under then-Education Minister B. Davis.

NUS

Continued from page 1

He added, "If the trust office is working, financially viable and serving students, it never be shut down."

But one of the board members, NUS treasurer Robert Lauer, said, (in regards to the of A and the NUS referendum "NUS will not give up."



New Lister Complex head

Lorne Gunter was ratified as Lister Complex Coordinator in a yes-no vote of Lister residents Friday.

Gunter received an 87% vote of approval; voter turnout was 37%. There were no other candidates, but the Lister Hall Students Association bylaws require that any candidate achieve a majority in an election.

Duties of the Lister Complex Coordinator include general supervision of discipline in the residences and liaison between the students and the administration. Gunter says he is unsure what he will do if the position is changed to Student Association president, as outlined in Housing and Food Services' recent proposal.

Gunter is a third-year political philosophy student who has been a senior in residence this year. He said Sunday, "There is a definite need for student government; I'm not saying it's perfect,

but there have been great improvements over the past two years."

Gunter will take office in mid-March.

Students strike for financial advice

MONCTON (CUP) — More than a quarter of the students at the Universite de Moncton are boycotting classes to attend workshops on student aid, tuition increases, unemployment and the high rents in the city. The workshops are being held in the university's athletic center, which the students have been occupying since early Monday, February 5.

Earlier, students narrowly defeated a motion to cancel classes for a two day period to hold the workshops. On Feb. 1 at the largest general meeting in the university's history over 1500 of U de M's 2,400 students turned out to debate having the study sessions. A motion to cancel classes was defeated 825-680.

Afterwards, a group of about 200 students decided to occupy the sports and athletic complex to continue discussing the issues. They decided to approach students in each department to vote on cancelling their classes and joining the study session. As of February 6, more than 600 students in the faculties of arts, science and engineering had voted in favor of

cancelling their classes and most other departments were expected to do the same by Wednesday.

A spokesperson from the student radio station AXX said "most people are scared of having a strike, but realize that something has to be done. The purpose of the study sessions is to fully debate the issues and to find some alternative to a strike which will allow us to deal with the questions."

According to student federation spokesman Joseph LaBelle, "The campus is mobilized and moving. There is discussion everywhere. The situation is very volatile," he said. He added that people were proceeding cautiously given the results of the Feb. 1 vote.

The students are asking for three changes in the student aid program: that loans and bursaries be tied to increases in the cost of living, that the criteria for determining 'independence' of either two years in the work force or four years of post-secondary study be eliminated, and that revenue obtained from sources such as part time employment not be used to decrease students

aid.

About 75-80% of U de M students receive some assistance under the program.

Although no tuition increases have yet been announced, Ghislain Michaud, general secretary of the student federation, said students expect a 15% increase. This would mean an extra \$100 added to present \$620 fee.

Moncton students who live off campus also have been recently hit with increased rents. In December the Moncton Landlord's Association raised rents by \$25 per month and another \$25 increase in June.

Labelle said students are trying to form a tenants association in conjunction with city and community groups to push for provincial rent commission.

The students are protesting the recent changes in Unemployment Insurance legislation which restricts students from covering their expenses. Michaud said the changes hit U de M students especially since most are Acadians from the province's highest unemployment areas.